Amendments to the Claims:

The Preliminary Amendment has been prepared with the understanding that the Amendment After Final Rejection filed September 29, 2004, has been entered pursuant to the instructions set forth at part 1.(a)(i) of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal form (PTO/SB/30 (08-00)) filed October 29, 2004.

Please amend Claim 28 to read, as follows.

Claims 1 through 27. **(Canceled)**

28. **(Currently Amended)** An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image bearing member;

image forming means for forming a toner image and a toner patch image for density detection on said image bearing member;

a transfer medium for transferring the toner image onto a transfer material;

transfer means for transferring the toner patch image using a settable transfer bias onto said transfer medium; and

density detecting means for detecting a density of the toner patch image on said transfer medium,

wherein an image forming condition for forming the toner image by said image forming means on said image bearing member ~~onto the transfer material~~ is controlled in accordance with an output of said density detecting means, and

wherein a setting value of the transfer bias for transferring the toner patch image is changeable in correspondence with a density to be used to form the toner patch image.

29. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein a setting value of the transfer bias for the toner patch image when the toner patch image having a maximum density image formed on said image bearing member is transferred onto said transfer medium is larger than a setting value of the transfer bias for the toner patch image when the toner patch image having a halftone density image formed on said image bearing member is transferred onto said transfer medium.

30. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 28 or 29, wherein said image forming means includes exposure means for exposing a surface of said image bearing member, which has been electrically charged, in accordance with image information with an exposure amount, which is changeable in accordance with the density of the toner patch image.

31. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 30, wherein a surface potential of said image bearing member exposed by said exposure means is changeable in accordance with the density of the toner patch image.

32. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 28 or 29, wherein the setting value of the transfer bias for the toner patch image is changeable in correspondence with a toner gradation level of the toner patch image.

Claims 33 through 35. **(Canceled)**

36. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein the setting value of the transfer bias for the toner patch image corresponds to a voltage level.

37. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 28, further comprising ambient condition detecting means for detecting an ambient condition,

wherein the setting value of the transfer bias for the toner patch image is changeable in correspondence with an output of said ambient condition detecting means.

38. **(Original)** An apparatus according to Claim 37, wherein said ambient condition detecting means detects temperature.

39. **(Original)** An apparatus according to Claim 37 or 38, wherein said ambient condition detecting means detects humidity.

40. **(Canceled)**

41. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 28, wherein said image forming means includes developing means for developing a latent image formed on said image bearing member, and

wherein a voltage applied to said developing means is controlled in accordance with an output of said density detecting means.

42. **(Previously Presented)** An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image bearing member;

image forming means for forming a toner image and a toner patch image for density detection on said image bearing member;

a transfer medium for transferring the toner image onto a transfer material;

transfer means for transferring the toner patch image using a settable transfer bias onto said transfer medium;

density detecting means for detecting a density of the toner patch image on said transfer medium,

wherein an image forming condition for forming the toner image by said image forming means is controlled in accordance with an output of said density detecting means; and

ambient condition detecting means for detecting an ambient condition,

wherein a setting value of the transfer bias for transferring the toner patch image is changeable in correspondence with an output of said ambient condition detecting means.

43. **(Original)** An apparatus according to Claim 42, wherein said ambient condition detecting means detects temperature.

44. **(Original)** An apparatus according to Claim 42 or 43, wherein said ambient condition detecting means detects humidity.

45. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 42, wherein the setting value of the transfer bias for the toner patch image bias corresponds to a voltage level.

46. **(Canceled)**

47. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 42, wherein said image forming means includes developing means for developing a latent image formed on said image bearing member,

wherein a voltage applied to said developing means is controlled in accordance with an output of said density detecting means.

48. **(Previously Presented)** An apparatus according to Claim 28 or 42, wherein said transfer medium carries the transfer material.